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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Former Parker's Marathon Slated for Redevelopment

Media invited to attend event to kick-off demolition

CANAL WINCHESTER – The Village of Canal Winchester has received assistance from Franklin County's Collaborative Homeowner Helpline program to demolish the former Parker Marathon Gas Station located in the heart of downtown Canal Winchester. By working closely with the Franklin County Commissioners and Franklin County Treasurer Ed Leonard, the Mayor has entered into a contract with the Board of Commissioners to clear the vacant site. The Village is also working with the Central Ohio Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) to redevelop the land once the former gas station at 18 W. Waterloo Street has been demolished.

An event will be held November 10, 2008 at 9 a.m. to celebrate this milestone, with demolition scheduled to begin immediately following brief remarks by local leaders. Media in attendance will have the chance to interview those integral to the project as well as photo/video opportunities of the actual demolition. Details follow:

Date/Time: Monday, November 10 at 9 a.m.

Location: Former Parker's Marathon site, 18 W. Waterloo Street in Canal Winchester

Agenda: Michael Ebert, Mayor of Canal Winchester
Paula Brooks, Franklin County Commissioner
Ed Leonard, Franklin County Treasurer

Photos/Video: Demolition to begin following brief remarks

"There have been several disputes over the ownership of this building while it sat vacant for nearly 20 years," said Mayor Ebert. "We are very excited to see everyone now working together to fix what has been an eyesore for our downtown community for so long."

The former Parker's Marathon gas station at 18 W. Waterloo Street in Canal Winchester is currently owned by the Central Ohio CIC, a non-profit organization that assists governments in redeveloping sites unusable in their current state. The redevelopment project is being supported through the Ohio Department of Development's Urban Development Division's Revolving Loan Fund. The Franklin County Board of Commissioners and the County Treasurer's Office have financially assisted this project through funding the demolition of the building. The Village of Canal Winchester has contributed an amount equal to the cost of demolition towards the repayment of the loan and will administer the project. When the project is complete, the Central Ohio CIC will put the land up for sale at a price equal to the amount remaining on the repayment of the loan.

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